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PAGE 01 STATE 168770

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR KRAUS AND DAVIS

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. THURSDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED KISSINGER RE-
PLACING ROGERS; PRESIDENT VOWS TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. FRIDAY
PAPERS HEADLINE KISSINGER PLANS MORE OPEN POLICY IN FOREIGN
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PAGE 02 STATE 168770

AFFAIRS; WATERGATE.

2. COMMENT. SOVIET MIRV. CHILDS COLUMN. FRIDAY WASHPOST, CHILDS COMMENTING ON SOVIET MIRV BREAKTHROUGH SAYS LESSON WHICH SEEMS NEVER TO BE LEARNED IS THAT ANY TECHNOLOGY US CAN ACHIEVE CAN BE EQUALED BY SOVIETS. WITH SEVERAL YEARS TO GO FOR DEPLOYMENT SOVIETS MAY REGARD MIRV AS BARGAINING CHIP IN SALT TALKS. CHILDS SAYS WHOLE DISARMAMENT APPARATUS SO DOWNGRADED BY PRESIDENT, BURDEN OF TRYING TO RECONCILE NEW MIRV DEPLOYMENT WILL FALL ON KISSINGER WHOSE ROLE IS SUPREMELY IMPORTANT IF STRATEGIC ARMS RACE IS NOT TO GO INTO NEW AND PERHAPS IRREVOCABLE SPIRAL.

3. COMMENT. SOVIET MIRV. MONDAY NORFOLK PILOT SAID CONGRESS SHOULD RESPOND CALMLY TO LATEST PROGRESS IN SOVIET

MIRV PROGRAM. IT SHOULD CONTINUE PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN MISSILE TECHNOLOGY, BUT SHOULD RESIST FOR THE MOMENT THE IMPULSE TO ATTAIN AN UNATTAINABLE SUPERIORITY.

3A. MONDAY NYPOST SAID SCHLESINGER MESSAGE ON SOVIET MIRV DEVELOPMENT PLAINLY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN NEW PLOY TO ASSURE APPROVAL OF FRESH FUNDS FOR TRIDENT.

3B. TUESDAY LATIMES SAID SUCCESSFUL SOVIET MIRV TESTS DO NOT HAVE TO MEAN SALT TWO NEGOTIATIONS ARE DOOMED TO FAILURE. ASSUMING US INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ACCURATE IT IS STILL CONCEIVABLE THOUGH NOT LIKELY THAT SOVIETS WILL NOW AGREE TO MORATORIUM WITHOUT FURTHER TESTING OF MIRVS. IF RUSSIANS INSIST ON CONTINUING TESTS WHILE REFUSING TO SURRENDER SUPERIORITY IN NUMBERS OF MISSILES, NEGOTIATIONS WILL BECOME INFINITELY MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF PROBLEM OF VERIFICATION. ADMINISTRATION SHOULD MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF ECONOMIC LEVERAGE AT ITS DISPOSAL CONSIDERING RUSSIAN NEED FOR PROLONGED PERIOD OF EXPANDED ACCESS TO US TRADE, TECHNOLOGY AND CREDITS. SOVIETS SHOULD BE PUT ON NOTICE THAT DEGREE TO WHICH THEY ARE ACCOMMODATED HAS MORE THAN PASSING RELATIONSHIP TO WHAT HAPPENS IN SALT TWO.
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PAGE 03 STATE 168770

3C. TUESDAY WASHSTAR-NEWS COMMENTED RUSSIA'S MIRV COMPLICATES TASK OF REACHING FURTHER AGREEMENT AT SALT, AND RAISES ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW SERIOUSLY RUSSIANS DESIRE TO BRING ARMS RACE UNDER CONTROL. ADDITION OF MIRVS TO SOVIET ARSENAL ALSO MAKES TASK OF SALT MORE DIFFICULT SINCE IT IS HARDER TO VERIFY MULTIPLE WARHEADS WITHOUT ACTUALLY VISITING MISSILE SITES. LONG-RANGE

ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS REQUIRING CORDIALITY AND UNDERSTANDING AT TOP LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT MAY PROVIDE GREATEST OF ALL INSURANCES FOR ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF SALT.

3D. WEDNESDAY CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR COMMENTING ON SOVIET MIRV DEPLOYMENT WARNED IF US FAILS TO KEEP UP IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND PRUDENT DEPLOYMENT, IT COULD MAKE DECISIVE DIFFERENCE IN SHAPE OF POWER WORLD. POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES DO SEEM TO ARGUE FOR VIGOROUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY TO KEEP US SOMEWHERE NEAR WHERE IT IS NOW - FIVE YEARS AHEAD OF MOSCOW IN TECHNOLOGY-

3E. FRIDAY WALL STREET JOURNAL COMMENTS TYPE OF WEAPONS SOVIETS DEVELOPING ARE SUITED TO FIRST STRIKE WIPING OUT

OF OUR LAND-BASED MISSILES. FACT THAT THEY WOULD WANT SUCH A FORCE IS IN ITSELF DISTURBING. WITH LONG LEAD-TIMES IN STRATEGIC WEAPONS, US RESPONSE NEEDS TO BE PLANNED NOW. JOURNAL SAYS TRULY RELEVANT QUESTION IS WHAT KIND OF WORLD IS ASSUMED IN STRATEGIC PLANNING, ONE WITH SALT AGREEMENTS OR WITHOUT THEM. WE CAN ALWAYS CUT BACK ON WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT IF SALT TWO SUCCEEDS, BUT LEAD TIMES WOULD MAKE IT HARD TO SPEED UP IF WE DO NOT HAVE PROGRAMS UNDER WAY IF IT FAILS. PRUDENT THING IS TO PREPARE FOR EVENTUALITY THAT INTERIM AGREEMENT WILL EXPIRE AND WE WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH AGGRESSIVE SOVIET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM NOW UNDER WAY. IF WE PLAN OUR STRATEGIC PROGRAMS ON THAT BASIS, THEY WILL BE BARGAINING CHIP ENOUGH.

4. DEFENSE SPENDING. THURSDAY WASHPOST, EVANS AND NOVAK COLUMN SAYS NEW ANTI-DEFENSE SPENDING COALITION, ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE NUMBING EFFECT OF WATERGATE ON NIXON, HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 STATE 168770

EMERGED IN THE HOUSE AND MAY CAST A LONG SHADOW ACROSS NATION'S NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY. WORRIED SUPPORTERS OF DEFENSE PROGRAM PRIVATELY FEAR NEW COALITION BETWEEN FISCAL CONSERVATIVES AND DOVISH LIBERALS MAY HAVE ESTABLISHED NEW VOTING PATTERN IN HOUSE. ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS PRIVATELY CONCEDE STUNNING DEFEAT ON ARMS BILL RESULTED FROM PREOCCUPATION WITH THE SCANDAL.

5. US TROOPS IN EUROPE. FIVE OF EIGHT COMMENTING NEWSPAPERS (CINCINNATI ENQUIRER, KANSAS CITY STAR, PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN, SAN DIEGO UNION, WALL STREET JOURNAL) TAKE THE POSITION IT WOULD BE UNTIMELY AND UNREALISTIC TO WITHDRAWAL US TROOPS BEFORE MBFR CONFERENCE. TROOP STRENGTH COULD BE USED AS BARGAINING POSITION AND SHOULD BE MAINTAINED UNLESS SOVIETS AGREE TO BALANCED WITHDRAWAL. THE

REMAINING THREE PAPERS (ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, INDIANAPOLIS
STAR, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER) FEEL THERE SHOULD BE SOME
GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL OF US TROOPS WITHOUT WAITING FOR MBFR
NEGOTIATIONS WHICH COULD DRAG ON INDEFINITELY. ALL PAPERS
CONCEDE ABSURDITY OF US PAYING DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
COST OF ALLIANCE TO PROTECT WESTERN EUROPE. RUSH

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